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The Hongkong Telegraph

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

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August 24, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 80 2 p.m. 89
Humidity 94 66

August 24, 1916. Temperature 6 a.m. 79 2 p.m. 88
Humidity 97 67

WEATHER FORECAST
FAIR.
Barometer 29.84.

7732 日七初月七

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 1917.

伍拜禮 號四廿月八英港香

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE GREAT ITALIAN OFFENSIVE.

An Unbroken Series of Successes.

London, August 23.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Rome, the Italian offensive has forced the Austrians to obtain reinforcements from the eastern front. The Twelfth Division is mainly composed of recent arrivals from Galicia. The Austrians were preparing to remove six guns near Salò when our troops, like a hurricane, assaulted and captured the weapons. After nine counter-attacks had been repulsed near Korito, the Italians adopted the offensive and captured an entire regiment. Another brigade assaulted with the bayonet Hills 241 and 247 at least seven times, taking many thousands of prisoners. The following morning they proceeded to assault the strong lines before Sile. Despite a determined resistance, the enemy abandoned almost the entire first line from Plava to the sea on a front of sixty kilometres. Documents captured from an enemy airman admit that the Austrian aeroplanes were outnumbered by three to one. Prisoners are still flowing in.

Over Sixteen Thousand Prisoners.

London, August 23.
An Italian official wireless message says:—We have progressed north and south of the Julian front. Our troops, repulsing counter-attacks, carried a position south-east of Bonafaita. We had taken prisoner 10,000 men and 350 officers up to yesterday. Aeroplanes and an airship dropped twelve tons of bombs on the enemy.

THE BATTLES IN THE WEST.

Our Troops Encountering Great Difficulties.

London, August 23.
Correspondents describe that where the southern Irish, as mentioned yesterday, were cut up, the Scottish attacked on August 22 against the sinister forts of Beekhouse, Barry Farm and Vampire Point, guarding the Bremen Road, south-east of St. Julien. A little to the north, there are other forts, where the Ulstermen fought, and which Midland regiments are now assaulting, meeting with the same difficulties. The ground is still a mere bog, in which the tanks are sinking. The enemy relied mainly on machine guns skillfully arranged for enfilade barrages. The Midlanders captured one blockhouse, taking 47 prisoners. Others penetrated the machine gun barrages as far as Hill 35, while on the right flank, the Scots fiercely assaulted Bremen Road, which apparently is still holding out. The fighting is split up into inextricable groups and there is no doubt that we shall have to pay the price of the most desperate fighting of the war. Colonel Bevington states that the Canadians have broken six German Divisions at Ypres.

British Line Again Advanced.

London, August 23.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We advanced our line south-west of Lens and repulsed an attack east of Langemark by machine-gun fire. The enemy raided posts in the neighbourhood of Lombartzyde.

Another Raid on Zeebrugge.

London, August 23.
The Admiralty announces that the Naval Air Service bombed yesterday morning, Zeebrugge shipping and batteries, and also Ghislenghe aerodrome. All the machines returned safely.

Three Days' Captures by the French.

London, August 23.
A French communiqué says:—There is great enemy artillery firing north of the Aisne, notably in the Bray-Hartebise sector. We have made prisoner at Verdun since August 20, 7,640 including 180 officers, 600 wounded, twenty-four guns of all calibres and over 200 machine guns, while we also destroyed nine guns. The communiqué again records numerous and heavy aerial bombardments of railway stations, aviation grounds, bivouacs and machine-gun convoys behind the enemy's lines.

ON THE RUSSIAN FRONT.

Enemy Continues to Attack.

London, August 23.
A Russian official wireless message states:—We retired, under pressure, in the direction of Takkum. The enemy penetrated trenches at Zborsh, but a counter-attack drove the enemy out. The enemy occupied a height north-west of Jaslova, but a counter-attack restored the position. Fighting continues in the direction of Oona. The Rumanians repulsed attacks at S.veis, and the Germans unsuccessfully attacked in the direction of Focani.

A Dashing Rumanian Counter-Attack.

London, August 23.
A Rumanian communiqué dated August 11 states:—Enemy attacks to the north of the Susița Valley slightly forced us back, but most dashing counter-attacks drove back the enemy as far as the Susița Valley and Sălnău, south-east of Păncu. We took 500 prisoners. Violent enemy attacks between Sălnău and Tîrguocna were driven back almost everywhere in disorder.

THE TERRIBLE DISASTER AT SALONICA.

London, August 23.
Reuter's correspondent at Salonica states that the fire was most awe-inspiring, a mile-wide avenue of flame devouring everything in its course. The entire business quarter on the whole of the seafront was destroyed. The loss is enormous and the insurance is estimated at from two to three millions sterling. The Allied Military gave the utmost assistance, though the scarcity of water was a tremendous drawback. Each Allied Army is caring for the destitute, and the British alone are tending thirty thousand. While the fire was burning three enemy aeroplanes dropped bombs.

TAXING U.S. MILLIONAIRES.

London, August 23.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Washington, the Senate has adopted an amendment to the War Tax Bill greatly increasing surtaxes on incomes of over \$100,000 a year. If it becomes law the incomes of leading millionaires will be taxed sixty-seven per cent.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

JAPAN'S NEW PART.

Troops to Appear on Russian Front.

London, August 23.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Paris, the Petit Journal says that the difficulties in the way of Japanese intervention in Europe have been removed, and the glorious dawn will be symbolized by the appearance of the Japanese flag on the Russian Front.

THE BOMBING OF HOSPITALS.

Deliberate German Campaign.

London, August 23.
It is now established that the Germans are deliberately selecting hospitals and clearing stations for a succession of aerial attacks, leaving alone military objectives in the near vicinity. There were three such attacks on August 19. In the first, three women nurses were wounded, in the second one doctor was killed and three wounded, and in the third nine Germans lying in bed were wounded. Last night similar attacks occurred on hospitals where the wounded Germans were noisy and panic-stricken, but were the British were silent and self-controlled. Mr. Berch Thomas describes how a great English surgeon was visiting a hospital, accompanied by American surgeons, when bombing began. The hospital echoed with guttural German screams. The hospital was plunged into darkness and a flash lamp revealed a horrible scene. There was a mass of debris in which three hundred-pound bombs had made craters, suggesting that the raider was one of the newest air giants. The first bomb struck a ward of Germans, nine of whom were heaped in every attitude in a horrible and fantastic death. The doctors state that in all their experience they have not witnessed such a horrible scene. Another ward suffered as severely as the German ward.

THE FAILURE OF THE GOTHAS.

Eight Enemy Raiders Brought Down.

London, August 23.
The fact that the last of the Gothas' efforts has resulted in eight enemy aeroplanes, raiders and escorts, being brought down, as well as the continued fine achievements of the Dunkirk squadrons, is giving satisfaction. The ten Gothas which first attacked Ramsgate met with a tremendous gun-fire. Soon a Gotha was hit, the petrol tank falling in flames. The pilot descended on an even keel. A second, just shortly afterwards, was hit, turning topsy-turvy and falling from a great altitude to the sea. Crowds of bathers watched the drama in brilliant sunshine. They were thrilled by our "Archies" shooting and by our airmen's intrepid attack, one, despite the shelling, diving in and out of the enemy whose formation was entirely broken up. A bomb killed four men taking refuge in a store on the seashore. An aerial torpedo demolished a hospital building, killing one patient and wounding several. Eight of the Gothas then proceeded, via Deal, where the "Archies" drove them off to Dover, where they dropped six bombs, killing three and injuring several. The damage done was slight. Many fine air-fights were witnessed over the town and seaward. Twenty-four British and Gotha machines were counted over the Isle of Thanet and heroic fights, amidst heavy shelling, were witnessed.

The Total Casualties.

London, August 23.
The Press Bureau announces that the total casualties in yesterday's aeroplane raid at Ramsgate and Dover were eleven killed and twenty-six injured.

BRITISH SHIPS BOMBARD ZEEBRUGGE.

London, August 23.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, the Telegraaf says British ships have bombarded Zeebrugge.

FOOD FOR BELGIUM.

London, August 23.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Washington, the Food Control Board is negotiating to divert foodstuffs consigned to neutrals, and held up in America, to Belgium, where it is urgently needed.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

GERMANY AND THE PAPAL NOTE.

London, Aug. 23.
Continuing his statement before the inquiry committee of the Reichstag Dr. Michaelis denied that the Pope's proposal was inspired by the Central Powers and declared that it was the spontaneous decision of the head of the Catholic Church. The Chancellor, though assuming an attitude of reserve with regard to details, asserted that the note corresponded with the position of the German policy taken up since December 12 last, that Germany sympathetically regarded every attempt to inspire peace thoughts among the peoples. Germany particularly greeted the Pope's action which the Pontiff has endeavoured to base on impartiality and justice. Regarding the answer to the note Germany was communicating with her allies. Negotiations were not yet completed and he would discuss the subject further when the answer was ready.

RUSSIA TO RESPECT HER TREATIES.

Petrograd, Aug. 23.
M. Kerensky in a statement to the Provisional Government considers the adherence to treaties concluded with Great Britain and France a question of conscience and honour. In view of the Government's attitude to the Stockholm Conference the latter's decision cannot modify the policy so far as it concerns the aforesaid treaties. The Conference is a party and not a Government affair, but at the same time the Government aims at facilitating the holding of the Conference with the Socialist parties' participation.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE RAID ON ENGLAND.

South Coast Towns Bombed.

London, Aug. 22.
According to a British official announcement this morning's raiders' dropped bombs over Dover, Margate and Ramsgate. Eleven were killed and thirteen injured at Dover and Ramsgate. A number of houses and a hospital were damaged. One enemy pilot was rescued slightly injured.

One, or at the most two, of the airships which were raiding the Yorkshire coast last night ventured overland. Twelve high explosive and thirteen incendiary bombs were dropped on three villages near the coast wrecking a chapel and damaging several houses. One person was injured.

Raiders Brought Down.

London, Aug. 23.
Three machines from Dunkirk indecisively engaged twelve Gothas 35 miles northward of Newport and chased them to Zeebrugge. Another patrol of ten machines engaged 25 of the enemy while the escorting scouts awaited the raiders from England drove down at least five completely out of control. Accurate counting is impossible owing to the close fighting. All of our machines returned.

The Admiralty announces that Naval aeroplanes attacked ten Gothas in the vicinity of Ramsgate at a height of 11,000 feet and shot down one in addition to the two already reported. They chased the remainder oversea. One of our pilots fired 300 rounds of ammunition at one enemy machine in which both gunners appeared to be killed as they did not return the fire even at twenty yards.

"Fortified Towns."

London, Aug. 23.
A German wireless official message states:—Our aviators successfully bombed fortified towns on the English coast.

THE RUSSIAN FRONT.

London, Aug. 22.
A wireless Russian official message states: The Germans took up the offensive at Inkum and drove back our cavalry advance posts. There is vigorous German artillery fire in the Divinsk and Brody regions. The enemy attacked south-westward of the town of Sereth and occupied a fortified height. The fighting continues in the direction of Okna with varying success.

ALLIED SHIPPING RETURNS.

London, Aug. 22.
For the week ending Aug. 19 the Italian arrivals were 499 and the sailings 457. Two steamers and three sailing vessels were sunk while two steamers and a sailing vessel were damaged, but reached port. Two steamers were unsuccessfully attacked.

The French arrivals for the week ending Aug. 19 were 1,049 and the departures 1,012. Five vessels of 1,600 tons and four under were sunk while three were unsuccessfully attacked.

VOLUNTEER RESERVE ORDERS.

Orders issued to-day by Major Wakeman, Commanding H. K. V. R., state:—

Detail.

On duty from the morning of Sunday, the 28th August, to the morning of Sunday, the 2nd September. "A" Coy. H.K.V.R.

Orderly Officer, Lieut E. E. Jones.

Next for duty, H. K. V. C.

Parades.

Monday, 27th instant.—Raids on the Cricket Ground at 5.15 p.m. under Instructor Sergt. Oxberry. Dress: Drill Order. Mounted Section at Polo Ground at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Clean Fatigue. Mounted Section at Polo Ground at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Drill Order. Signalling Section: The following will attend Volunteer Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Clean Fatigue. For Heliograph Instruction: Lieut. Opl. Goldsmith and Mayer, Ptes. Higginbotham and Cosart. For Flag Drill: Ptes. Mattingley, Wilson and Gompertz. Remainder will parade at Happy Valley for Station Work under Lieut. Sergt. Crawford. Fall in at Monument 5.30 p.m. Dress: Clean Fatigue.

Friday, 31st instant.—"A" and "B" Coys and Recruits on the road outside the Orderly Room at 6.15 p.m. Kowloon Dock Section at Kowloon Dock at 6.15 p.m. Tests of Elementary Training, Musketry. Dress: Drill Order except Kowloon Dock Section which may parade in plain clothes. Every man, including exempted members, must attend this parade. Saturday, 1st September.—Nil.

Strength.

No. 641 Pte. E. G. Herbert is permitted to resign on joining the Hongkong Police Reserve.

No. 547 Pte. W. J. Hodge is permitted to resign on leaving the Colony.

Notice.

Men warned for guard are strictly forbidden to send substitutes without permission of the Officer Commanding, which will be granted only in cases of sickness. Applications for exemption accompanied by medical certificates must be sent to the Adjutant by noon of the previous day.

may be obtained on application at the Orderly Room. Every man, including exempted members, must attend this parade.

Wednesday, 29th instant.—Nil.

Thursday, 30th instant.—Recruits on the Cricket Ground at 5.15 p.m. under Instructor Sergt. Oxberry. Dress: Drill Order. Mounted Section at Polo Ground at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Clean Fatigue. Mounted Section at Polo Ground at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Drill Order. Signalling Section: The following will attend Volunteer Headquarters at 5.30 p.m. Dress: Clean Fatigue. For Heliograph Instruction: Lieut. Opl. Goldsmith and Mayer, Ptes. Higginbotham and Cosart. For Flag Drill: Ptes. Mattingley, Wilson and Gompertz. Remainder will parade at Happy Valley for Station Work under Lieut. Sergt. Crawford. Fall in at Monument 5.30 p.m. Dress: Clean Fatigue.

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TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service To The "Telegraph.")

THE SILVER MARKET.

London, August 23.
The silver market is firm.

NO SEPARATE PEACE.

Head of Russian Mission Denounces Rumours.

Mr. William A. Prendergast, Controller of New York, and Mr. George W. Wickham, ex-Attorney General of the United States, addressed Boris A. Bakmeti, Russian Ambassador to the United States, and members of the American-Russian Chamber at a luncheon at the Hotel Biltmore, New York, recently. The Chamber entertained Ambassador Bakmeti and the members of the Russian Mission now touring the United States, and in the absence of the Mayor who began his vacation to-day, Mr. Prendergast officially represented the city.

The Ambassador in his address, said, in answer to reports that Russia intended to make a separate peace, that Kerensky had dashed across the field of battle in Galicia leading the army of Russian democrats against German autocracy, and that there could be but one outcome—victory of mankind over tyranny.

"This is the world's greatest struggle," said Mr. Bakmeti. "The history of mankind does not record a struggle so deep and vast with such loss of life, and with such widespread devastation. It is the greatest contest in the history of the world between two modes of thought. On one side are liberty, democracy, common prosperity, and equality of opportunity. On the other are militant autocracy, tyranny, and oppression. There can be but one outcome, a victory for mankind as against the tyrants over mankind."

Mr. Hayden B. Harris, vice-president of the Chamber, introduced the Controller. The latter started off with a reference to the Mayor, Mr. Mitchell, which evoked applause. The Controller spoke in part as follows:

"The grace and tact with which Mr. Mitchell discharged the duty of his office in welcoming friends from abroad, together with his eloquence, accuracy and faithfulness in expressing the warmth and cordiality of the people of the city."

"It is a great thing to live in these days. Who would not make the sacrifice, almost immeasurable, in each doing something to solve the problems agitating the civilized world to-day?"

"We were a country sitting afar off from the terrible problems of the world until these visitations from abroad, and especially from Russia, served to give a close impression of those problems. We rejoice that you are here, not only for yourselves and your people, but as an inspiration to the people of America to battle harder to the glory of democracy every where. The two great events of 1917—events that will stand out in all history—were the Russian revolution and America's entry into the world war. Both were inevitable."

Mr. Prendergast said that America looked forward to mutual commercial prosperity with Russia after the war, and closed with a declaration that all liberty and prosperity that might come to Russia would cause the United States to rejoice.

Mr. Wickham's address reviewed the Russian struggle for freedom, and prophesied a wonderful era of Russian literature, music, art, and science.

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.

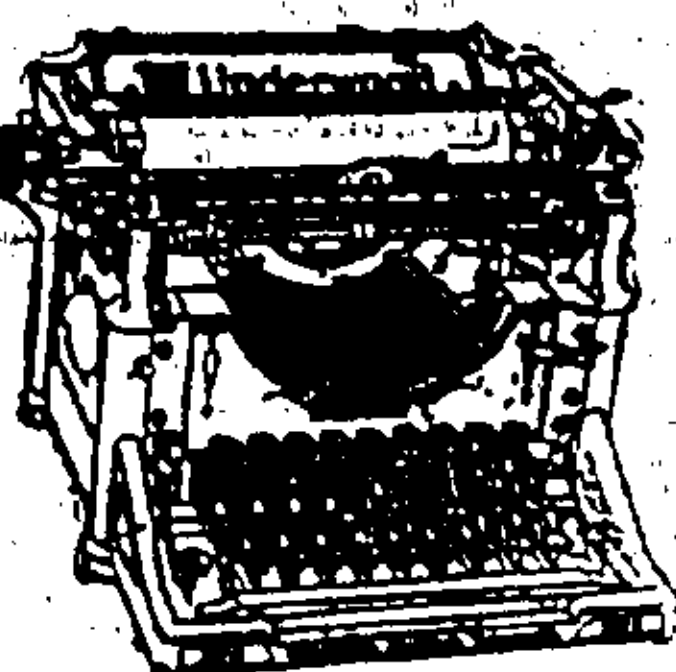
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Chamber—9.15 p.m.

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Agents.

Yorkshire

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ESTABLISHED 1884.

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AGENTS.

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THEN why be half-suffocated, and sit up
all night coughing and gasping for
breath when a SINGLE dose of

NOBBS' ASTHMA CURE

will give you certain, prompt relief and
ensure a good night's rest. This is the
only genuine cure for Asthma, discovered
by Mr. NOBBS, a qualified Chemist, and
a sufferer for many years, will, if taken
when necessary, effect a radical cure of
this entirely incurable malady.

Obtainable at Messrs. A. S. WATSON
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Price: \$2.50 per bottle.

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PORTLAND CEMENT.

In Casks of 375 lbs. net.
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General Managers.
Hongkong, 16th August, 1916.

LESSONS IN CHINESE.

M. K. Ho, a Chinese graduate
studied in America, has been a Lecturer
in Chinese for many years.
He has a good knowledge of the Chinese
language and is prepared to teach
Chinese to Europeans and Americans.
He has also a good knowledge of English
and is prepared to teach English to
Chinese.
Those who intend learning the Chinese
language are requested to write care of
"Hongkong Telegraph" office or direct to the
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P. O. PEUSTER, Manager.

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It has been entirely renovated throughout and newly furnished, and it now includes in every respect
Large and airy rooms, excellent sanitary arrangements, Hot and Cold Bath, Electric Light and Fans,
Private and Public Bar and Billiards. Terms Moderate. For further information apply to
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THE PREMIER HOTEL. FINEST SITUATION.
EXCELLENT CUISINE.

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(Late Grand Hotel, Southcliffe, England, and
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NOTICES.

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is especially adapted for overcoming the undue perspiration and sensitiveness of the feet during hot weather.
This powder will be found invaluable for correcting those uncomfortable conditions of the feet which arise from excessive perspiration, fatigue, burning, etc.
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Look inside for the proof of the Royal's durability—1,000 working parts less than others! Mark the absence of complicated mechanism! The machine with the rapid-fire action and adjustable personal touch to fit YOURSELF!—just "turn the knob."

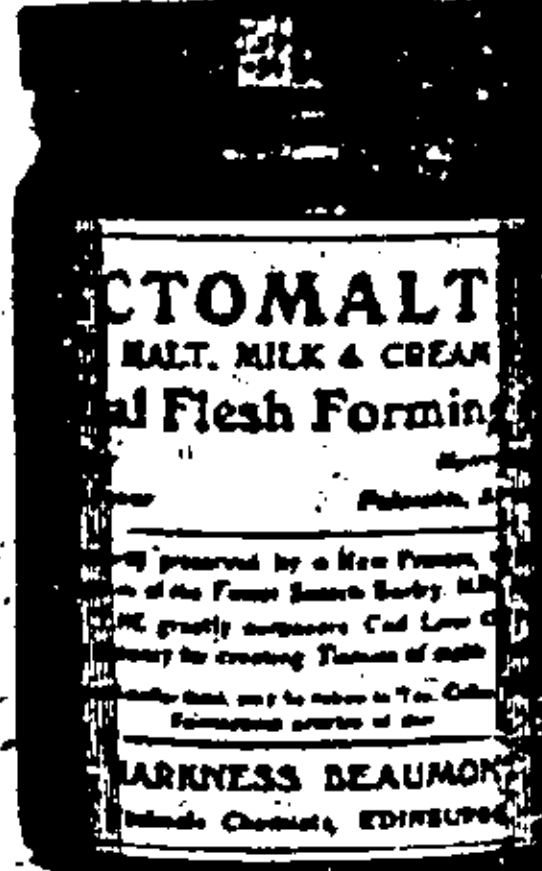
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PROPRIETOR, C. LAURITSEN.

Tel. 482.

GENERAL NEWS.

Singapore Property Market.
The undermentioned Singapore properties were disposed of by auction at the saleroom of Messrs Powell and Co., Ltd., recently:—
Freehold land and house, known as "Rockhill," area 492,087 sq. ft., bought by Mr. J. B. David for \$20,200; Leasehold land and house No. 211 Angus Street, area 3,849 sq. ft., which after brisk bidding, was knocked down to Mr. Low Peng Yam for the sum of \$18,700. The sale of freehold building site at Tanglin Road was withdrawn.

Less-Majesty in Japan.
The appeal filed by Mr. Daigoburo Tagawa, formerly Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Department of Justice and a member of the House of Representatives, accused of lese-majeste, has been rejected at the Tokyo Court of Appeal, reports the Japan Advertiser. Mr. Tagawa was sentenced to five months' imprisonment and fined Yen 500 in the court of first instance for writing an article in the Third Empire last November in which he attacked the Genro for interference in the last ministerial change. The article was interpreted by the judicial authorities as having affected the dignity of the Imperial family.

The Situation in China.
In the New East (Tokyo) for August, Mr. David Fraser, the Times correspondent at Peking, gives a connected account of the "Imperial Weed in Peking," which he describes as the Dream of Chang Hsun. Mr. Fraser's comments are interesting, but disquieting, for they bear out the view that the attempt to restore the monarchy was merely an "interlude" in the struggle between the militarists and the autocrats. Indeed, he goes so far as to say that the men who overthrew Chang Hsun were the supporters of Yusan Shih-kai's aspirations to Imperial power and that the rule they are now establishing in Peking is potentially as great a danger to self government as even Chang Hsun and his puppet Emperor. In conclusion Mr. Fraser declares that things in China are very much as they were, "Old China and Young China are still ranged against each other, and the one element cannot rule without the acquiescence of the other. The need for compromise remains. Fortunately both sides have seen the evil fruits of arbitrary action, and having been associated in the common cause of saving the Republic, past quarrels have faded into the background, and there is the precious opportunity to make a new beginning."

Rheims, a Pantheon.
A pantheon for the unknown dead of all the armies fighting in France for the common cause of democracy is the purpose to which the Cathedral of Rheims will be dedicated in the future. The French Government has signified this intention to the headquarters of the French Restoration Fund at Washington. It is proposed that the cathedral shall not be restored, but that "representatives of all the Allies shall place their battle-flags within what remains of the historic edifice, which then shall be formally dedicated as a monument to the heroic dead." The idea will commend itself to every Allied soldier and sympathiser on both sides of the world, says the New York Evening Sun, "as of deepest understanding and of complete precision in that matter of enlightened judgment which we call 'taste.' And—"To such a shrine the world will continue to go reverently, observing what vain men inspired with the fury of passions have made of a great monument of religion, upon which the flowers of man's most beautiful art had been heaped. Under those broken arches, between those shattered walls, whose wondrous windows were shot out like men's eyes by the German invader of consecrated ground—will hang the "battle flags of the Allied Powers, which united to fight with St. George and St. Denis and the Maid, to keep the world safe for freedom and for free people."

GENERAL NEWS.

Shanghai War Funds.
The total of the gifts and subscriptions to the different French war funds for July 14 in Shanghai, amounted to nearly 50,000 francs, out of which 30,000 was subscribed to buy two ambulances. Amongst the very generous donors special mention must be made of Mr. Kadoorie, who gave more than 20,000 francs.

A Remarkable Occurrence.
In the mountainous district of Shidao-taken, Japan recently, a six year old girl was carried away by an eagle. The child's parents were manufacturing charcoal at the time and the child was with them. A search was immediately instituted by the inhabitants of the villages in the vicinity but no trace of the child was found.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from the Liquidator of Messrs. WITZKE & CO. in pursuance of an Order of the Hongkong Government to sell by Public Auction at

12 o'clock (NOON).

ON

MONDAY

the 27th day of August, 1917, at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street, Hongkong.

ALL the piece of ground situate at Yau-mat, Kowloon, in the Colony of Hongkong and registered in the Land Office as KOWLOON INLAND LOT NO. 209.

In One Lot.

The property consists of a piece of ground abutting on Battery Street and Fourth Street (near the Praya) in Kowloon and contains an area of 4500 Square Feet.

The Lot is held for the unexpired residue of a term of 75 years created therein by an Indenture of Crown Lease dated the 4th day of May 1888.

The Annual Crown Rent is \$60.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to MESSRS. HASTINGS & HASTINGS, Solicitors for the Liquidator, or to the Undersigned:

GEO. P. LAMBERT.

Hongkong, 23rd May, 1917.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from the Liquidator of Messrs. BLACKHEAD & CO., F. H. HOHNKE, F. J. SCHWARZKOPF, E. H. THIEL, and J. E. DANIELSON in pursuance of an Order of the Hongkong Government to sell by Public Auction at 3 o'clock in the AFTERNOON

ON

FRIDAY

the 7th day of September, 1917, at his Auction Rooms in Duddell Street.

THE VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY

situate and being Shaukiwan Marine Lot No. 1 and known as Blackhead's Soap Works.

In One Lot.

The property has an area of 25,800 square feet or thereabouts and consists of level ground with a sea wall in good condition on the water front. On the property stands a Soap Factory and buildings in connection therewith comprising two Godowns, one with cooling quarters over a Manager's House, a Boiler and Machine House, three Iron Sheds, two Wooden Sheds and a Tank.

The property is held for the residue of a term of 999 years from August 1890. The Crown rent is \$410 per annum.

THE PLANT and MACHINERY in the factory will be sold at the same time.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale may be had from:-

Messrs. DEACON, LOOKER, DEACON & HARSTON,

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The Auctioneer.

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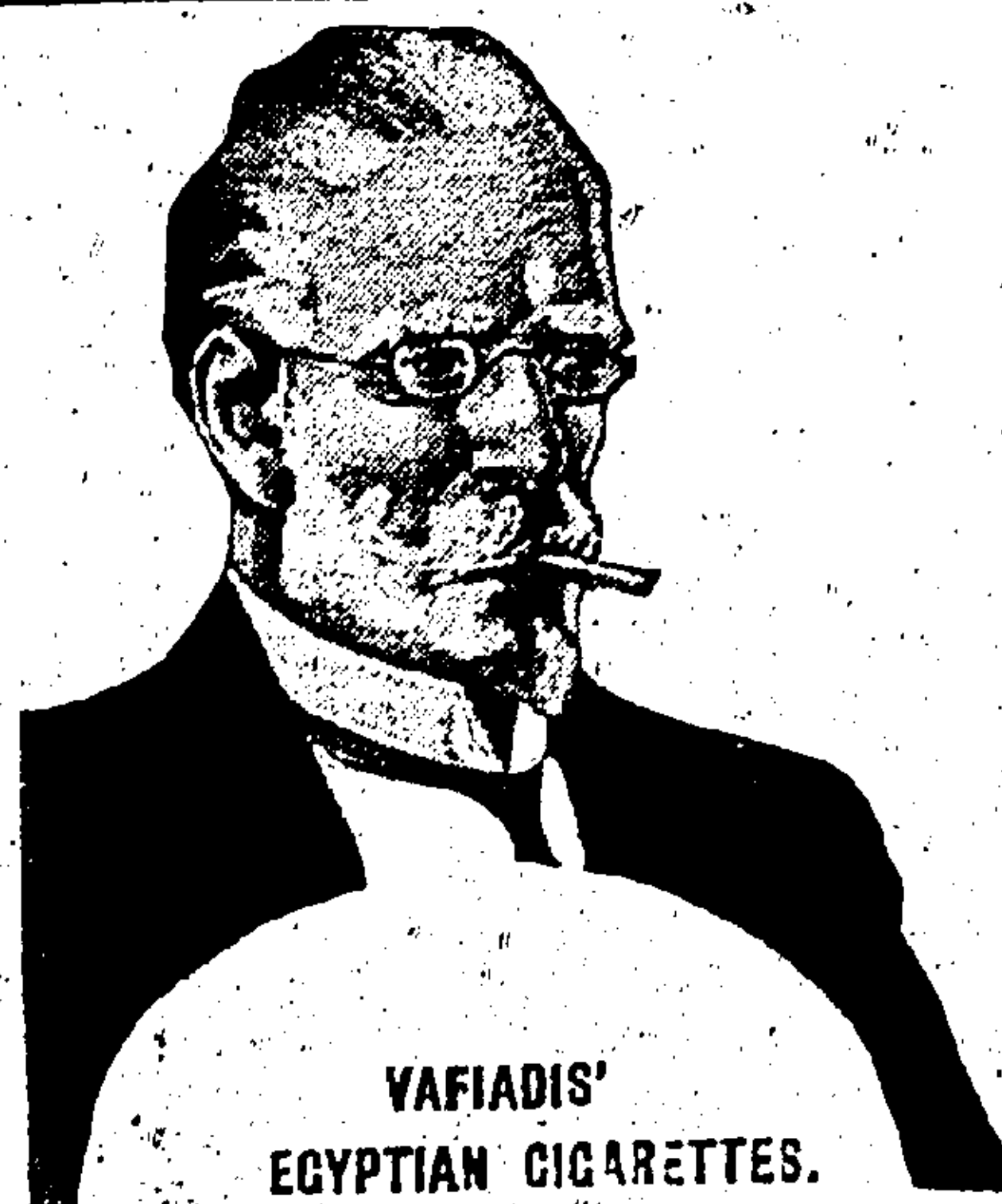
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Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

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Telephone: No. 1 A.B.C., 5th edition. Western Union
Office address: 11, Ice House St.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 1917.

IS IT SLAVERY?

A question of the utmost importance and seriousness has been raised in a kidnapping case at the Criminal Sessions by the contention of the defending counsel that a system of child-slavery exists in the Colony. With the case itself we are not greatly concerned, except in so far as it throws light on the practice which is common among Chinese of trafficking in human lives. Among the facts brought out in this particular instance were these:—Two little girls were sold into service, both being purchased by women in Hongkong; one was purchased from her father and the other from her brother, the prices paid being \$100 and \$148 respectively. The reason for the sale in both instances was the poverty of the sellers. The children were bought as servants, they were paid no wages, and their mistresses claimed them as their absolute property, so much so that they could re-sell them if they felt so inclined. In other words, the children were in complete subjection to the will and commands of their mistresses, and, moreover, could not call their bodies their own. It was on these circumstances that Mr. Alabaster argued that the girls were slaves.

The point raised by Mr. Alabaster is important not because of its bearing on this particular case, but because it has brought into prominence the question as to whether slavery does or does not exist in this British Colony. The Chief Justice saw this aspect of the subject when he remarked on its seriousness and observed that, if Mr. Alabaster were right, the Legislature should take immediate steps to amend the law. As we see this question, however, the matter of amending the law does not arise. In Hongkong, the Common Law of England operates save in so far as it is varied by the local Ordinances. The law of England disallows slavery; therefore, if slavery exists here, the remedy is to put the Common Law into operation. It has been questioned whether the practice of child purchase does not come within the purview of those customs and rites the observance of which was preserved by the first official Proclamation ever issued in the Colony. The answer to that contention is that, while British colonial policy has always dealt tenderly with the social customs of subject races, it has never frowned on such customs when they conflict with the fundamentals of justice and liberty. Were that not the case, cannibalism, for example, might to-day be regarded as a perfectly legal practice in many a British possession. Slavery has been defined as "the involuntary servitude of one person to another," a slave has been described as "one whose person is held as property." Both these definitions exactly fit the case which has given rise to this controversy, and, judged by them, the system revealed is slavery, and nothing else but slavery.

Five years ago, the Registrar General, in his annual report, asserted that purchased children could probably be found in 90 per cent. of the well-to-do Chinese families in the Colony. At that time we commented on the practice, condemned the bondage which it entailed, and argued that, for the fair name of British liberty, the harbouring of purchased children should be made illegal. We also stated that the fact that many of these children were better fed and clothed than when free, was beside the point, since it was possible for a person to be surrounded by creature comforts, given unlimited luxuries and yet be a most abject slave. That is the view we hold to-day. The consideration arises as to what could be done with these bond-servants if the harbouring of them were definitely declared illegal. We have the solution at hand in the provisions of the very first enactment passed in the Colony, an ordinance which was disallowed by Her Majesty on the ground that the Imperial Statutes for the abolition of slavery "extended in all their power and force to Hongkong." This Ordinance provided that those emancipated who were unable to earn a living should be supported by the Colony until put in the way of supporting themselves. But, whatever the solution of the problem, we cannot help thinking that the selling and buying of human beings is totally contrary to British conceptions and ideals, and we much regret that the issue was not finally decided by the legal aspect of the subject being fully investigated.

The Latest Air Raid.

Further details to hand regarding the air raid on certain parts of England, mainly Kent, point to the fact that though the raiders were numerically strong and their squadron composed of several of the very latest and most formidable types of "Gotha" machine, fully equipped, they found the reception awaiting them much more than they could possibly have bargained for. They did some damage, killed a few civilians and destroyed several buildings. They also afforded a very exciting spectacle to thousands of people, who instead of being terrified, as the Huns hoped, calmly looked on and found the display thrilling and of absorbing interest. How little the Germans know of the British temperament, when they imagine that such a remarkable event as an air-raid, with its strong element of luck appealing to the most innate instincts of a sport-loving people, can cause them to be terrified. The British are not "built" that way. This latest raid has resulted in no fewer than eight enemy aeroplanes, raiders and escorts being brought down. The raiders' destination was doubtless London. They did not get within a hundred miles of the metropolis; and the vigorous attack which they received on reaching the English shores indicates that the authorities have profited by past experience, and that they are now much more effectively equipped to cope successfully with the enemy than they ever were before. Just as we overcame and caused the disappearance of the Zeppelin, so will the Gotha be as successfully dealt with. As in the case of the submarine, it seems to be the Huns' final attempt to vanquish us. In both he is "doomed to certain disappointment."

The Modern Huns.
In one thing the Germans are certainly invincible. It is not in organisation nor in fighting, but it is in absolute callousness and disregard of the ordinary accepted ideas of humanity. Their latest lapse in this respect makes nauseating reading, even when one bears in mind their many inhuman actions both on sea and land. At present there is absolutely incontrovertible proof that the Huns, infuriated by the defeats at Verdun, deliberately bombed French hospitals from the air. Their aircraft seem to have met with little or no opposition, with the consequence that they wreaked a horrible vengeance on the weak and helpless, killing many engaged in the beneficent occupation of assuaging pain. Nurses, doctors and patients, we read, were fired upon; many of them were killed and many injured. Well worthy are the Germans of the name by which they are now universally known and detested—the Huns—by surely Attila's horde, in all its fury, never could have committed more inhuman deeds than those that are being daily perpetrated by the Germans.

Germany's Desire for Peace.
If any indication were required that Germany is simply yearning for peace it can be found in the statement made by the new Chancellor before the Main Committee of the Reichstag, on the Pope's Peace Note. Dr. Michaelis says that the Note corresponds with Germany's policy, and that the country greets the action taken by His Holiness. What else can this mean than that Germany is absolutely tired of the war and would gladly stop fighting to-morrow on the basis of the Pope's proposals? These proposals, as we have before shown, practically amount to a reversion to the position as it existed before the war, each group of belligerents to give up the territory which has been occupied and the sinners to go unpunished for their crimes. The Allies have made it perfectly clear that such a peace will not suit them; Germany welcomes the suggestion with open arms. The difference in attitude is accounted for by the relative prospects before the opposing strains: The Germans know that they must be beaten; the Allies see victory drawing nearer every day. Peace the Entente nations assuredly desire, but not a peace which would commend itself to the Kaiser. There is only one way of securing it, and that is by final and complete victory in the field.

DAY BY DAY.

CREDITORS ARE A SUPERSTITIOUS SET, GREAT OBSERVERS OF SET DAYS AND TIMES.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the third anniversary of the destruction of Louvain.

The Dollar.
The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 2s.11.5/8d. The closing rate will be found on Page 1.

A Defendant Believed.
A coal heaver, who has recently been employed by the Taikeo Sugar Works, was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, with stealing the fittings of a water hydrant in the yard of works. He was seen to remove the fittings by an Indian watchman and then to wash himself, later taking the fittings away. The defendant's excuse was that he only wanted to get a wash, for which purpose he had to remove the fittings. He had no intention of stealing them. His Worship decided to believe the man and ordered his discharge.

RUSSIAN POLITICS.

Constitution of New Cabinet.

Petrograd, Aug. 7.—The new Cabinet is constituted as follows:—

Mr. Kerensky, Premier, Minister of War and Minister of Marine.
Mr. Nekrasoff has accepted the portfolio of Finance but invited Radical Democrat Professor Bernatsky Grant to the Ministry of Finance.

Mr. Arkesntieff, President of the Executive Committee of the Peasants' Delegates and member of the Central Committee of Revolutionary Socialists, is Minister of the Interior.
Mr. Tereschenko, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Skobeltz, Minister of Labour.
Mr. Peashechenoff, Minister of Supply.

Mr. Therenoff, Minister of Agriculture.
Mr. Oldenburg, member of the Party of Cadets and secretary of the Science Academy, Minister of Public Instruction.

Mr. Zaroudny, Socialist (popular), Minister of Justice.

Mr. Efremoff, Radical Democrat, Minister of Public Assistance.

Mr. Gailway, Member of the first Duma, Minister of Communications.

Mr. Prokopovitch, Socialist (Democrat), also president of the lately founded Economical Committee, Minister of Commerce and Industry.

Mr. Nikitine, Socialist (Democrat), Minister of Posts and Telegraphs.

Mr. Kokoshkine, professor of law and member of the Central Committee of the Party of Cadets, States Controller.

Mr. Kartashoff, member of the Cadets, Procurator of Synod.

The Provisional Government intends to create a special committee for the supreme direction of all questions of national defence.

Mr. Savenkoff, former Government Commissioner at the front and Lieut. Lebedeff are appointed immediate collaborators of Mr. Kerensky, the former in the War Ministry and the latter in the Marine Ministry.

The crisis of the Provisional Government has been solved. On the evening of August 8th, Premier Kerensky formed a new Government on the basis of the declaration he addressed to the country after he took back his resignation. In the choice of the individual members of the Cabinet, the Premier was guided by actual interests of the country and the desire to attract to the staff of the Cabinet the representatives of all political parties which have expressed confidence in Premier Kerensky at the historical conference of August 4. Premier Kerensky was personally engaged in pourparlers with the representatives of those parties and directed the appointments of the new members of the Cabinet.

Kokoshkine—Japan Times.

QUEEN MARY'S NEEDLEWORK GUILD.

Hongkong Gifts Acknowledged.

The following letters have been received by the United Services Recreation Club work party in acknowledgment of gifts received:—

27 h General Hospital, Abbaesieh, June 30th, 1917.

Dear Madam—The case of bandages, swabs and stump bandages packed and sent by you in March arrived safely and in good condition.

It was a most acceptable selection, especially, the round and square swabs, which are absolutely invaluable. Any more consignments will be most gratefully received, especially swabs and muslin bandages. The diaphanous ones are rather too warm for this climate.

Yours truly,
(Signed) DOROTHY G. WHYTE.
(For Matron).

British Red Cross and Order of St. John, Nasrich Military Hospital, 23.6.17.

Dear Mrs. Beckwith—Ever so many thanks for the large case of bandages which you so kindly sent me.

They arrived at a time when we were very busy indeed admitting a number of badly wounded officers and men, and were therefore most acceptable.

I ought to have acknowledged the case sooner, but at that time the stress of work was so great that I am afraid my letters were neglected.

Again very many thanks,
Yours truly,
(Signed) G. HUGHES,
Matron.

THE FREIGHT MARKET.

Very Little Business Doing.

Messrs. Snowman and Company, in their report dated August 18, state:—

Since we reported on 4th inst. the quiet tone of our market has remained unaltered and little business has been negotiated on either trip or time-charter basis.

The Saigon/Hongkong rate has weakened slightly, whereas when we last went to press \$1.12 was the ruling rate, fixture, of a small-tonnage steamer, has since been put through at \$1.10 per picul but with seemingly small demand little further business had been fixed beyond that of a medium-sized regular coaster for a round trip, Hongkong/Saigon/Hongkong on lumpsum basis of \$43,500.

At time of going to press only a small enquiry for tonnage at a cent or two over the dollar per picul is in the market.

Exports of rice from Saigon from 1st January to 24th July, 1917, amount to 551,935 tons as compared with 617,907 tons for the same period last year. Quotation for No. 2 White round sifted rice stands at \$3.69 per picul f.o.b. Saigon for August/September shipment.

Saigon/Java and Saigon/Japan remain as previously advised.

Saigon/Philippines:—There is a demand in this direction, offers at \$1.40 have been made without takers and tonnage could probably be placed at a little over this figure.

Batavia/Hongkong:—The rate in this direction is very strong. We last reported \$1.70 as the ruling rate for inside the bar loading and this has strengthened to the extent that quotations were made at \$1.80/\$1.85 for inside/outside the bar loading respectively. A fixture of a small outside is reported at latter rate and a medium-sized local steamer has been fixed at \$1.60 for inside and \$1.45 for outside the bar loading.

Newchwang/Canton:—We have still nothing to report.

Coal:—There is still a strong demand for collier tonnage Japan to southern ports but in the absence of bottoms it is difficult to state a rate, although it is possible that, with offers at about

VOLUNTEER ORDERS.

Corps Orders issued by Captain J. H. W. Armstrong, V. D., state:—

Strength.
Supper J. F. Anderson joined the Corps on 22.8.17, is allotted Corps No. 2105 and posted to Engineer Company.

Leave.
No. 1372 Sergt. Henderson is granted 1½ months' leave, from 29.8.17.

No. 1476 Corp. B. S. Setna is granted 6 months' leave, from 1.9.17.

No. 1608 Spr. J. H. Gordon is granted extension of leave while employed on the s.s. Hai Ching from 22.8.17.

Parades.
Monday, 27th instant.—At 5.10 p.m. Centre Section M.G. Co., drill at Kowloon Dock. Hongkong residents proceed by launch from Statue Wharf at 4.30 p.m. At 5.30 p.m. Artillery Battery at Belchers Battery; Right Section M.G. Co., and Scouts Company on Murray Parade Ground (Tests of Elementary Training); Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables; Recruits of all units on Murray Parade Ground under Corps. Grimes, Edmonds and Edmonds and Lee-Corpl. Meade.

Tuesday, 28th instant.—At 7.10 a.m. Scouts Company M. G. Co. detachment at Headquarters. At 7.30 a.m. Belchers 6" Section at Belchers Battery. At 5.30 p.m. Artillery Battery (Range Takers only) at Belchers Battery; Left Section M. G. Co., and Civil Service Company at Headquarters under unit Commander (Section drill and Visual Training); Streetcar Bearers Section at Headquarters; Signalling Section "A" and "B" classes at Happy Valley (Heliograph and Flag Station work).

Wednesday, 29th instant.—At 5.30 p.m. Right Section M. G. Co., and Scouts Company at Headquarters under unit Commanders (Tests of Elementary Training).

Thursday, 30th instant.—At 7.10 a.m. Scouts Company M. G. Co. detachment at Headquarters. At 7.30 a.m. Belchers 6" Section (Layers class only) at Belchers Battery. At 5.10 p.m. Right Section M. G. Co., and Scouts Company (N. C. O. and men who failed in the Judging Distance Test on 15.8.17) outside Courts of Justice and proceed by car to Happy Valley. Tests of Elementary Training (3 T. Nos. 1 and 3). At 5.30 p.m. Artillery Battery (Layers and Setters only) at Belchers Battery; Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables.

Friday, 31st instant.—At 7.30 a.m. Belchers 6" Section (Range Takers class and Gun Numbers as detailed only) at Belchers Battery. At 5.30 p.m. Artillery Battery (Gun Numbers other than specialists) at Belchers Battery; Recruits of all units on Murray Parade Ground under Corps. Grimes, Edmonds and Edmonds and Lee-Corpl. Meade; Signalling Section "A" and "B" classes at Happy Valley (Heliograph and Flag Station work).

Saturday, 1st Sept.—At 7.10 a.m. Scouts Company (men detailed by Sergt. Major Ramsay) at Headquarters (Marketry instruction and T.E.T.). At 4.30 p.m. Special Parade at Headquarters for members of the Corps (Infantry) unable to attend drills ordered on 27th, 28th, 29th and 31st August. One N. C. O. from each unit sending men will attend.

Detail.
On duty 2nd Sept., Scouts Company; 3rd Sept., Scouts Company; 4th Sept., Right Section M. G. Company; 5th Sept., Left Section M. G. Co., and Civil Service Company; 6th Sept., Centre Section M. G. Company; 7th Sept., Scouts Company; 8th Sept., Scouts Company.

Orderly Officer from 2nd to 8th Sept., Lieut. R. E. Lindvall.

65/- per ton, tonnage might be closed for the latter part of the year loading Moji/Singapore. With regard to local business stocks of Hongkong Coal at this port are fairly good, so that there is little demand. A small steamer of about 300 tons has however been fixed for a number of trips at \$25 per ton.

Future reported:—Hongkong/Hongkong 4 trips \$25 per ton.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

To be misquoted on his own monument is ample excuse for any poet's turning not once but many times in the grave—thus decorated. Such was the fate of Alexander Pushkin, the romantic poet who was to Russia during the early years of the last century what Byron was to England and De Musset to France. Pushkin, it will be remembered, suffered banishment from St. Petersburg in his early manhood because of his revolutionary utterances; but later he succeeded in making his peace with Czar Nicholas I and thereafter remained on amicable terms with the Government. He was killed, in a duel, fought over his wife, in 1837, when he was thirty-eight years of age, and in the same year there was published for the first time a poem by him entitled "My Monument," in which two of the stanzas, as translated literally by a compatriot of his, read:—
A monument not made by hand I have erected for myself.
The well-trodden path to it will never be over-grown.
It has risen higher, with unbending head,
Than the monument of Alexander.

Long to the nation shall I remain dear
For rousing with my lyre its noble feeling,
For extolling freedom in a cruel age,
For calling for mercy toward the fallen.

The government censor of the old Russia that has just passed away to it that this poem did not reach the Russian people as it was written. The "monument of Alexander," by whom of course Pushkin meant the first Czar of that name, was charged to (the "monument of Napoleon," and for the words "extolling freedom in a cruel age" was substituted a pointless line about Pushkin being "useful by the living charm of verse." In this mutilated shape the second stanza quoted was actually engraved as late as 1880 upon the poet's monument!

Our pride in having harnessed Niagara receives a severe shock in the news that Italy is utilizing volcanic heat to warm her houses and light her cities, says the New York Evening Post. Almost a hundred years ago a Frenchman discovered that the steam issuing from cracks in the earth in Tuscany was heavily charged with boracic acid, and proceeded to establish a plant for its extraction, the beginning, according to our Consul at Florence, of a most successful industry. But it has remained of our unimaginative generation, first to set the surplus steam to operating engines, and then to bore down to a point where a pressure of two or three atmospheres and a temperature of 350 degrees Fahrenheit released power sufficient to send a current of 16,000 volts to various towns and one of twice that strength to the two chief customers of the enterprise. One Consul fails to state whether or not there has been deposition to reckless use of this steam for fear that it might interfere with the activities of the volcano.

Things You Can Do for Your Country:—
The fighting man can die for it;
The saving man can buy for it;
The aviator fly for it;
The thrifty cook can fry for it;
The thrifty can go dry for it;
The daring man can spy for it;
The egoist can lie for it;
The diplomat can lie for it;
The farmer can grow rye for it;
The workman can ply for it;
The very baby cry for it,
And all of us can try for it.
—New York Sun.

A Friend of Ruskin.
The death occurred at her residence at Barmouth of Mrs. Fanny Talbot, a well-known philanthropist and a friend of John Ruskin, at the age of 93. She presented a number of cottages and land at Barmouth to the Guild of St. George, which John Ruskin created, and supervised their improvement. She was also a substantial subscriber to the Guild. Ruskin once referred to her as "for five years the only woman of the upper classes who gave me any help."

THE FRAWLEY COMPANY.



MISS GLORIA FONDA.

Above we give a photograph of Miss Gloria Fonda, of the Frawley Company, which opens a season at the Theatre Royal to-morrow night. Miss Fonda was the original leading lady in "Girl From Rector's" and the "Girl in the Taxi." For three years she was leading prima donna at Casino, New York, and for the past four years has been an international musical star, touring the world in musical repertoire, playing special engagements in Berlin, Vienna, Paris, Petrograd and all cities in Australia.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(The opinions expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

THE MAIL QUESTION.

(To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

Sir,—On reading, at various times, your remarks on the facilities enjoyed by other places in the East, with regard to the issue by the postal authorities of notices, giving the latest day on which letters can be mailed, it has occurred to me that, seeing the Siberian route is virtually closed, it is always possible to learn of the impending departure of a mail, by consulting the steamer notices put up in the various hotels. With few exceptions, I believe I am correct in stating that the majority of letters are carried via America, in which case it is not hard to discover the actual sailing date, either by asking the steamship line concerned or consulting the notice boards in question.

I believe, too, that the Post Office will inform responsible business houses if they intend making up a mail for a certain ship, but am open to correction on this point.

In any case, there certainly should be some method ascertaining when a mail is due to leave, as, with the exception of the shipping companies (and some others), the majority of people have to post their letters and trust to luck.

Yours etc.

"FLOCCI"

Hongkong, August 24, 1917.

MANGANESE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Owing the richest deposit in the Philippines of manganese ore, Captain Fred Bordette, the veteran mining man, will leave this morning for his properties on Camaguey island, off the north coast of Luzon, says the Manila Bulletin of August 20. For the past year or more Captain Bordette's mine has been turning out a high grade of this valuable metal, especially valuable at this time, owing to its use for electrical purposes. The purpose of his present visit are to arrange for the shipment to Manila of large quantities of the metal, the market being very active at present.

Mr. Ward Lyon, Manila's most prominent orchid dealer, will accompany the mining man, for the purpose of looking into the orchid supply in northern Luzon. Mr. Lyon has developed the orchid industry during the past few years until the Philippines are now one of the principal sources of supply for New York, scarcely a vessel leaving Manila for that port without a shipment of from one to five thousand plants.

JANE AUSTEN.

An Appreciation of Her Work.

The centenary of the death of Jane Austen occurs this month. Writing in the Pioneer on the great novelist a contributor says:—

Jane Austen's reputation grew slowly, but, for the last forty years or thereabouts, it has been very great. It would seem, however, that knowledge of her is not universal in literary circles. Mr. Rudyard Kipling, in some early facetious verses, gives to a straight-laced lady the baptismal name of Jane Austen. Her novels, in fact, are more inclined to be cynical than goodly goodly. It was probably this rather hard and worldly tone that hampered her popularity, for the first two generations of the nineteenth century were both extremely sentimental in their different ways. Her life embraced the most strenuous period known to English history, but it hardly made a ripple in the calm of her country life. She let the legions thunder past, and plunged in without a quiver. Having two brothers in the navy, naval affairs and even naval engagements figure from time to time in her pages, but they are looked upon merely as affording an eligible career for the heroine's brothers. The army is almost ignored, though the militia in "Pride and Prejudice" furnishes occasional flirtation and an elopement. One feature strikes everyone; the gentlemen are almost entirely unemployed. Mr. Knightley's brother has some occupation in London, but it makes no show, and the men have leisure to take the ladies out morning, noon and evening. Even sport hardly enters into their lives. The elegants have shocked many, but Edmund Bertram is a type of the best country person at that date long before Keble's day, and he makes a spirited defence of the profession against his sneering acquaintances. But the Eltons, the Collinses, and others are models of all a clergyman ought not to be. There is no doubt that Jane Austen was friendly to religion, apart from its respectability, and, for the time, had a high standard for the due discharge of clerical work, but the "bummers" of the hirelings afforded her better matter than the virtues of the faithful shepherds. Others have disliked Jane Austen's attitude towards children. Reference is seldom made to them except as noisy, tiresome, and dirty, and in "Persuasion" there even seems to be ridicule of maternal affection. But here again there is a misunderstanding. Her nephew says: "We did not think of her as being clever, still less as being famous, but we valued her as always kind, sympathetic, and amusing." We know, in fact, that Aunt Jane was a great favourite with children. People who object that Jane Austen does not rise to great heights or dive to profound depths, simply ask that blocks should be cut with razors, that she should turn aside from something she could do and take up something which she could not do.

Miss Austen was, above all things, an English lady, belonging to the minor county gentry, and this was the only character in which she wished to appear. She was very anxious to avoid the reputation of a blue-stocking, and put a handkerchief over her manuscript when visitors were announced, and, similarly, did not parade in her books what little learning she may have possessed. She might have depicted the devoted labours of a parish priest, but would then have been liable to the imputation of "enthusiasm," a quality highly unbecoming to a lady, or even a gentleman. At that time Wordsworth and others were finding exquisite matter in childhood, but in her world children had point a moral or adorn a tale, and the elders had a monopoly of wisdom and power; in their presence a child's talk and conduct was expected to be artificial and subdued. Nothing was admirable to Jane Austen that was inconsistent with the idea of an average English lady. Her world was limited, but its methods were as successful as

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those of preceding or following ages. To mind your own business and do your duty in your own sphere—the practices of this simple and prosaic creed brought England victoriously through a great war.

Further, Jane Austen had no use for anything that did not afford matter for her peculiar ironic art. Nature constantly plagiarizes from fiction; and Jane Austen's one incursion into the great world and publicity yielded an incident worthy of Lady Catherine.

She had been allowed to dedicate a book to the Prince Regent (who, to do him justice, was a discerning patron of literature), and Mr. Clarke, the great personage's private secretary, suggested that she should write a romance dealing with "the august House of Coburg." Her short note, declining the task, is equal in good sense and self-criticism to anything in the novels. "I could no more," she said, "write a romance than an epic poem." It was necessary for her to have free scope "to laugh at herself and others."

Hence her art was perfect; though she was by no means lacking in genius she was mighty in art. Critics derive her from Addison's "Spectator" through Defoe, and Richardson, to Miss Barne, her older contemporary. This is not erroneous, but she was as original as any novelist can be. She had far more knowledge of human nature than Addison, she had none of D. Defoe's taste for wandering or adventure, she had not a touch of Richardson's sentimentality or diffuseness, and Miss Barne, besides being hoisterous, belonged to a far lower class of literature.

Pro-Ally Spaniard and German Threats.

Senior Don Antonio Taya, who has arrived in London from Barcelona, is the well-known shipowner of that port and the proprietor of the pro-Ally paper La Publicidad. Owing to his refusal to interrupt sailings with England and Italy in obedience to the German submarine threat, Senior Taya and his business are perpetual objects of scornful attacks in the Germanophile Press. There have been two attempts lately to wreck the offices of La Publicidad.

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TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENT.

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TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENT.

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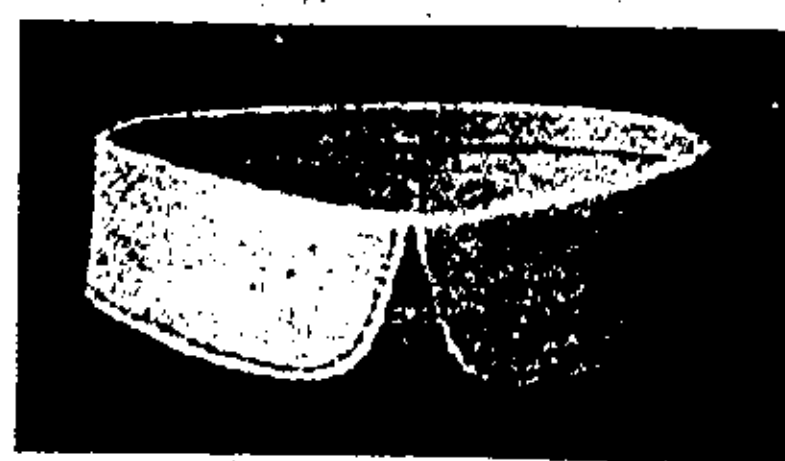
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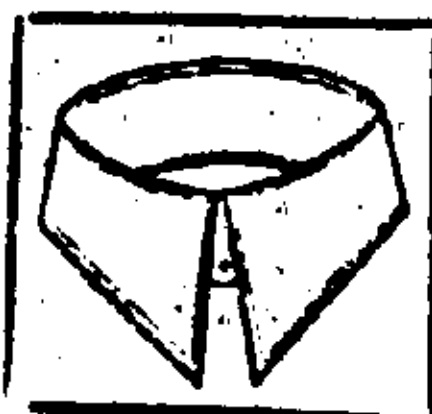


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VICTORIA, B.C. & SEATTLE via Keelung, S'hai, Moji, Kobe, Yokkaichi, Shimidzu & Yokohama...	Shidzuoka Maru Capt. Noma T. 12,500	WED., 12th Sept., at noon.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama...	Benten Maru Capt. Yamamoto T. 8,000	WEDNESDAY, 29th Aug.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama...	Kitano Maru Capt. Cope T. 16,000	SUN., 2nd Sept., at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama...	Mirano Maru Capt. Fraser T. 16,000	SATUR., 15th Sept., at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama...	Fushimi Maru Capt. Iizawa T. 21,000	SATUR., 15th Sept., at 11 a.m.
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KOBE	Asahi Maru Capt. Kossaka T. 8,000	SATURDAY, 25th Aug.
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COMMERCIAL NEWS.

Burma's Mineral Production.

Burma went ahead with her production of minerals in 1916 showing increases over 1915, in silver 184.7 per cent, tin ore 101.7, zinc ore 324.3, antimony ore 752.9 per cent. Gold, platinum and copper all fell off. Tungsten ore was a gainer of 71 per cent, but petroleum fell off 11.2 per cent.

Kobe and Osaka Money Market.

Money advanced in Osaka for the month-end settlement was recovered satisfactorily and cash in the hands of bankers increased rapidly, with the result that the discount rate declined by half a rin and the rate for money at call by 2 rin, the bank rate standing at 1.5 sen and that of call money at 1 sen at the lowest. The week-end accounts drawn up by the Osaka Branch of the Bank of Japan showed advances of ¥9,756,000, and deposits of ¥3,177,000. As compared with the preceding week-end, the former shows a decrease of ¥141,000, and the latter an increase of ¥1,156,000. At Kobe, the market for call money was somewhat weak, but the discount rate advanced to some extent, the rate for money at call standing at 1 sen and the bank rate at 1.5 sen, minimum. A firmer market is looked for.

Kobe Freight Market.

The local freight market is somewhat weak and rates have declined a little. For coal between Moji and Yokohama the rate is ¥9.10 or thereabout. On the other hand, prices of steamers continue to advance. During last week, one of the Yokohama Shipbuilding Yard's steel boats was sold at ¥8.10 per ton D.W. It is predicted that new steamers will soon cost about ¥9.10 per ton. Charterers concluded last week were at the rate of ¥23 for coasting steamers, ¥31 for Indian liners and ¥36 for the North American route. Fixtures made during the week were: Kaitu Maru, Dairen-Wakamatsu, coal, ¥8.50; Katori Maru, Koshiro-Dairen, steel, ¥1.40; Yumihari Maru, Vladivostok-Dairen, beans, ¥1.47 per picul; Nichitoku Maru, Vladivostok-Dairen, beans, ¥1.50; an American steamer, Karatsu-Manila, coal ¥7.00.

Appreciation of Japanese Prices.

Out of 50 principal commodities in Osaka, 35 advanced in price, and 7 declined, while 6 showed no change during July; the ratio standing at 231. (Prices in January 1912 are taken as the standard, 100.) As compared with June, the ratio shows an advance of 15 and as compared with June, 1914, before the outbreak of the war, it shows an advance of 102. It will be seen at a glance therefore how greatly the war has affected prices generally. The recent favourable condition of foreign trade, and the great increase of specie reserves which has caused an increase of currency are the immediate reasons of the advance. In July, the American Government promulgated a regulation prohibiting the export of some important commodities, and in Japan, prices of rice, cotton yarn and some other articles advanced amazingly. This doubtless has contributed to the vastly higher ratio.

Object to New Malay Land Law.

The Japanese rubber planters of Malaya have protested against the law to be enacted by the Straits Settlements on the limitations to be made in the distribution of rubber lands in the Malay Peninsula, Japan papers report. According to the new regulation, no acquisition of new lands nor transaction of lands for rubber plantation will be possible during the war. The chief articles of the enactment were as follows: 1. Individuals or corporations shall be prohibited from purchasing land from other individuals; corporations or the Government, except a space of not more than 10 acres per applicant. 2. This shall not apply to British subjects or subjects of the States, or Malaysians who have resided in the peninsula for seven years. Three companies which have been established on British soil or in one of the States of the Federation may obtain land under a special licence. 3. The above articles will not apply to the transactions and inheritances of British subjects, or to the applications which have been granted before the passing of the law.

NOTICES.

STOP PRESS TELEGRAMS.

THE MILITARY OUTLOOK.

Part of Lens Now Occupied.

London, August 23.

General Maurice says that the Germans are fighting very hard with many guns at Lens, but we have now got right into the town from the north-west and south-west. He declares that since July 31, the enemy, owing to exhaustion and losses, has had to withdraw more than double the number of divisions from the British front than we had. The meaning of the false claims of victories in the German communiques was that the German people had to be encouraged in view of their accumulating sufferings and inconveniences. For example, the German railway traffic is frequently breaking down, coal is getting scarce, etc., etc. The Germans have recently transferred many troops from the French front to the British.

Regarding the Italian offensive, really important successes have been gained and these might lead to very important developments. The Russian breakdown had not yet involved them in any serious strategic disadvantages. In connection with the recent German claim, that they had taken forty thousand Russian prisoners, this was surprisingly low, and, moreover, half of them were unarmed.

GERMAN FOREIGN SECRETARY'S SPEECH.

London, August 23.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Copenhagen, Herr Kuhlmann, the new Foreign Secretary, in the course of an illuminating speech in the Reichstag, deprecated a policy based on force alone. He advocated a policy based on justice as well as force. He emphasized the importance of studying public opinion in enemy countries, so that any peace offer should not be made untimely or a sharp word be uttered when a conciliatory spirit was appearing. He affirmed that the last year of the war was probably beginning.

THE WESTERN BATTLES.

Quiet Day on French Front.

London, August 23.

A French communique says:—The day, generally, has been quiet. There was mutual artillery activity on both banks of the Meuse.

British Tactical Gains.

London, August 23.

Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, telegraphing to-day, says that all yesterday's gains were maintained in Flanders and even added to, despite violent German artillery firing and counter-attacks. The advantage of yesterday's success is greater than the advance of a few hundred yards suggests, for we are now fighting on high ground, dominating the whole tactical position on North Belgium.

FROM KING TO KING.

London, August 23.

The Press Bureau announces that His Majesty the King has telegraphed to the King of Rumania expressing his admiration at the magnificent way in which the Russo-Rumanians are fighting. His Majesty says the British people are closely following the course of the great battle on the Franco-British Front. They are striking hard at the common enemy, but will continue to render the Russo-Rumanians the greatest possible assistance.

THE RUSSIAN ASSEMBLY.

London, August 23.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd states that the elections for the Constituent Assembly have been postponed from September 30 to November 25. The Assembly will meet on December 11.

"PLEASE ACCEPT."

An Interesting Bribery Case.

An interesting case of attempted bribery of Mr. J. D. Lloyd, of the Imports and Exports Office, was heard at the Police Court this afternoon, before Mr. J. R. Wood, when Kwaharo Takagi was charged that on August 13, at the Imports and Exports Office, he unlawfully offered to the complainant, a public servant, a bribe of one gold watch and chain, with a view to influencing his conduct.

Mr. Longinotto, Assistant Coroner, prosecuted, and Mr. F. C. Jenkin, instructed by Mr. J. H. Gardiner, defended. Mr. Longinotto, in opening, briefly outlined the facts, saying that in August 13 defendant went to see Mr. Lloyd on some business, and when he left he put a small parcel on the table and said "Please accept." Mr. Lloyd took this to the Superintendent and when it was opened it was found to contain a gold watch and chain of considerable value.

Mr. Lloyd, giving evidence, said he knew the accused, having met him in connection with the import and export of metals. On August 13 last, someone called from the firm with respect to exporting a quantity of iron piping. He told him to get the original invoices for the goods, and see the Superintendent at his convenience. The clerk then left the office. Later in the afternoon defendant came to his office with some permits in his hand and gave him the gift of a conversation which he had just had with the Superintendent about some pipes. He said the Superintendent had told him to

get the invoices and then see him again on the subject. Defendant mentioned in conversation that he wished to export a certain quantity of steel plate. With reference to this, permission had been given for the exportation of a certain amount but the question was whether permission would be given for larger quantities. He also mentioned exporting 12 tons of pig iron, and he (witness) told him he must see the Superintendent, and he referred the matter of the steel plates also to the Superintendent. He had power of signing permits subject to instructions given specially from time to time. Defendant then said he would go to the Superintendent again about it. Just as he turned round, he put his hand in his pocket, witness could not say which hand, and putting a small parcel on the table, said:—"Please accept." He then at once left the office. Witness put the parcel on one side on his desk and in about two minutes defendant returned and gave him the result of his interview with the Superintendent. Defendant went out and afterwards witness opened the parcel. The parcel was not mentioned. He was alone when he opened the parcel. Witness found inside a gold watch and chain in a case. He immediately went to see whether the Superintendent was in or not, and when he found he was in he took the parcel to him. Defendant had, on occasions, not in respect to this case particularly, asked witness some problematical questions with regard to imports and exports. He also went to see him one night at his private address, having asked for this because he said it was so difficult to see him during business hours.

Cross-examined by Mr. Jenkin, witness said he would give his private address to anyone who

ENEMY SUBJECTS IN CANTON.

A Private Business Meeting.

Our Canton correspondent writes under date of August 23 as follows:—

In reply to a query by the Consuls in regard to the declaration of war on Germany and Austria, the Tschun has stated that the declaration of independence by Kwangtung only applies to internal affairs and does not affect foreign intercourse, which will still be under the control of the Central Government. All the Consuls are satisfied with the explanation.

The Foreign Intercourse Commissioner has received instructions from the Superintendent of the China Bank in Peking to the effect that he has consulted with the British Minister and is to notify the British Consul on the Shamen to appoint guards at the German Bank, which will be later taken over by the China Bank in Canton, after arrangements have been made with the British Consul.

It is reported that a private meeting of representatives of all German and Austrian firms has been held in a house in Fang Chuen, with the object of carrying on business and insurance activities under Dutch names.

It has been decided that the issue of permits to enemy subjects who wish to remain in Canton and other commercial ports, and of passports for those who desire to leave, are to be controlled by the police in Canton, while in other districts the magistrates will deal with the matter.

St. Joseph's College.

The Classes of St. Joseph's College will re-open on Monday, September 3. The College Branch School at Chatham Road, Kowloon, will be opened on Wednesday, September 5, for the convenience of the younger boys at present attending the primary and remove Classes of the College at Hongkong.

Mr. Jenkin:—Can you mention any other trader whom you have accommodated in this way?—No; I cannot.

Mr. Jenkin:—No, I should think not. Was anyone else present?—Yes, Mr. Schofield was there.

Was the discussion on business?—Yes; practically what your conduct then?—No.

Do you often have parcels left on your desk by traders?—No.

You thought it was strange?—Yes.

If you thought the parcel was a present, when didn't you refuse it right away?—I wanted to consult the Superintendent about it.

Mr. Longinotto:—Could you have signed a permit for the steel plates?—Yes; but it would probably have been found out.

Mr. D. W. Trammis, Acting Superintendent of Imports and Exports, said he had seen the accused on business. On August 13, defendant called to see him in the afternoon, bringing an application for a permit for the export of some iron piping. Witness told him he must produce documents showing that the iron piping was not of British make. Defendant represented it as American. He left then but in a few minutes returned and made some enquiries regarding the export of pig iron. After defendant had left the second time, Mr. Lloyd came into his office with a small square parcel which was wrapped in Japanese paper.

Defendant was committed for trial.

"MARVEL."

The Butler Who Made Good.

At the beginning of the war Lady Parbury addressed her men servants on their duty to their country. In a neat speech she gave the footmen a month's warning, and then turned to the butler.

"You're over 40, Marvel, and soldiering is not in your line. The Duke of Amesbury will engage you. He said that you were a perfect butler, with the manners of a bishop."

"No doubt his grace intended it as a compliment, my lady. I hope it will not inconvenience your ladyship if I leave to-morrow."

"You can go when you like, Marvel; but the duke will not want you till he returns from town."

"I shall not enter his grace's service, my lady."

Two days later Private John Marvel was drilling among the recruits of the Wessex Fusiliers. He was a tall man, with hair turning grey at the temples; he maintained a dignified mien when called upon to do "spud" skinning, and even humbler fatigues. His capacity for command was recognized, and he was made a lance-corporal. A year later in France he was sergeant-major of his company.

The Wessex were in the push at Loos, and Marvel, as usual, was equal to the situation. He handled the footmen at Parbury. A ruined pigsty offered an advantageous position, and Marvel beckoned a couple of men to occupy it. Then there was a roaring crash; for a moment he was conscious of the dusty plain with the Fosses showing like pyramids through the haze, and then the world was eclipsed in blackness.

The night wind blew upon Marvel's face. He tried to get up, but found himself pinned beneath a tangle of woodwork—the roof of the pigsty, he remembered. He forced his way out, leaving most of his jacket behind him, and looked round. The roar of the artillery dominated the impressions—that and the glare of the ordnance reflected from the clouds. In front of him red flashes, streaked with black, cut holes in the dark curtain which shrouded Loos.

The ground near him seemed deserted, but behind him the rattle of machine gun and a continuous line of flashes marked the fighting front. It was evident that the wave of our advance had receded, leaving him in the German lines.

Marvel considered the situation. The mass of ruins to his left must be the Mills south of Loos, one of the points marked out for the Wessex to capture. Though they had retired from it, they would probably re-occupy it very soon. It seemed to offer shelter, and he made for it, picking his way among the shell-holes. He stepped over the body of a tall staff officer. It was before the staff had taken to trench caps, and the gold lace on the peak of his cap showed him a colonel. Marvel was bareheaded and coatless, and the wind blew cold through the rags of his shirt. He put on the colonel's jacket and cap and took his belt for the sake of the revolver and map attached to it.

As he approached the mill he heard English voices. Looking over a ruined wall he saw a plump little officer in captain's uniform, sitting beside a shaded candle, gazing at the picture of helpless incompetence. This is not a common sight in the British Army, and for once Marvel was astonished. Yet the event had come about in the ordinary course of official routine.

Captain Battenby had been a subaltern in the piping times of peace, and had gone out to the South African War. There he had been promptly Stellenbosch, and had retired with a medal and no clasp. He had been called up again with the rank of captain and had lately joined. Now he was the senior surviving officer of three companies of the Chesham Rifles which had been cut off during our momentary retreat.

Battenby was consulting with his subaltern. "It's not a bit

POLICE RESERVE ORDERS.

Orders issued to-day by Mr. T. F. Hoagh, A.S.P. (Reserve), state:—

Inspection.

All ranks will parade at Central Station at 5.45 p.m. sharp on Thursday, August 30. Uniform, helmets and rifles.

No exemption will be granted on business or any other ground than that of medical unfitness.

Recruits will not parade.

The parade will march past in columns of fours in Queen's Statue Square.

Mounted Police will fall in at Stables at 5.15 p.m.

Ambulance Platoon will parade without carriages and stretchers.

of good asking me where we are because I don't know. The only thing we can do is to lie low and keep quiet and hope they won't discover us till our chaps advance!"

Marvel made up his mind at once. He went round to the door and walked in.

"You are the officer in command?"

The captain jumped to his feet and saluted.

"Yes, sir. I have part of three companies of the Chesham here."

"You must have gone wide of your line. I expected to find the Wessex. Sir Charles attaches great importance to this post being held till we resume our advance. What are your dispositions for defence?"

"Well, sir, I have hardly gone into that yet."

"Then I will assume command. If you will be good enough to assemble your company and platoon commanders, I will give them their orders."

Battenby, immensely relieved, collected his officers. Marvel acknowledged their salutes. "You, sir, will take twenty men, and collect cartridges from the dead and wounded along the trench to the right. You, sir, will do the same on the left. Bring in any wounded and be back in half an hour. You are the machine gun officer? There should be several German machine guns among the ruins; get them into position facing the enemy. The whole of the remainder will shift the barbed wire from the rear of this to the present front. Captain—ah! Battenby? My name is Marvel—if you will come round with me, I will allot the section of the defence."

Under a leader who knew his mind, three hundred bewildered stragglers from the Chesham once regained their northern coolness and vigor. An hour later, when the German reinforcements advanced they were met by a withering machine gun fire from the Mills. They came on, driven forward with kicks and curses by their officers, and some of them had almost reached the walls, when they were taken in flank by a brilliant bayonet charge. The Germans tried again, but Marvel's men held their fire till the enemy were within twenty yards, and then opened a murderous enfilade fire from flanking positions, till the grey-clad bodies lay massed in front of them.

Then the Germans tried to work round the flanks; but they were too late. The day was already breaking—it was still September—and with the first rays of dawn the British advanced. When the Wessex reached the Mills they found Sergeant-Major Marvel, in the uniform of a colonel on the staff, in command. With unperturbed composure Marvel related his doings to his colonel. That experienced warrior listened to his terse narration, and remarked:—"I consider that you have done credit to the authorities; more than I can say. Get some proper clothes, rejoin your company, and keep your mouth shut."

A month later Marvel was gazetted second lieutenant in the Berwicks. At the present date he is a major, and by the end of the war he will probably be commanding the battalion.—O., in London Daily Mail.

SOCIALISM AND WAR.

Great American Writer on the Pacifists.

[A section of the American Socialist party is still swayed by German influence, and it is joining hands with other pacifist organizations in anti-war agitation. In the following article Mr. Upton Sinclair, the famous American novelist, and author of "The Jungle," denounces both pacifism itself and the German virus that encourages its growth.]

The late Dr. Salisbury used to conduct experiments in feeding hogs and human beings on a single article of food and watching them get sick, says Mr. Upton Sinclair in the Daily Express. In this way he learned to know the early stages of many diseases and the remedies for them. As a physician who has been studying social diseases for many years, I lay claim to similar ability in diagnosis.

The name of my patient is the American Socialist party, and the cause of her complaint is excess of Teutonic elements in her diet. She was brought up on this diet, and trusts it blindly; but the trouble with these imported package foods is that the quality may change, new elements may be introduced, and the customer may not discover it till his health has been seriously impaired.

In the last two years and a half the contents of the Teutonic food package have changed in a most disconcerting way. The Germans, you may recall, used not to be the leading peace advocates of the world—no, not even the German Socialists! Ten years ago I made a personal test of the package. I published a manifesto against war, which was circulated widely in every leading country of Europe—Germany alone excepted. The German Socialists, the tip-top authorities, gave me the reason. To circulate it would be high treason; therefore they would not try to circulate it!

This subject is too serious for jesting. The future of mankind is at stake, and each of us has the problem on his soul; each of us has the burden, as if the master were his set alone. For two years and a half I have been watching the world's events, thinking as hard as I know how, and I find myself, as it were, backed up against a wall with a spear of sharp reality going through me. It is no pleasant sensation; it is no joke to go out from the company of all your friends and into the camp of your enemies, whom you will never trust and who will never trust you; but I fear I shall have to go for a while.

I hate war, and wish to end it on earth; and I have come to this conviction—that the surest way to continue it for another generation, perhaps for another century, is to advocate pacifism in America in the present crisis. It is something we have to learn about this life, and it is not what we "want" to do that counts, it is what we "do"; and at this moment what the Socialist party is doing is to agitate for the victory of submarine Schrecklichkeit. Some of us may feel safe in doing it, because there is no chance of our agitation succeeding; but is that your idea of common sense?

I joined the Socialist party because I thought it believed in force; I thought it believed that liberty was a thing that had to be fought for. To be sure, we meant to get it by the ballot, if we could, but that was only because the ballot was recognised as a symbol, more economical and convenient—so one gives a cheque in the place of coin—but the coin must be there, real coin in the bank, otherwise the cheque is worthless.

In the case of the Socialist vote, the real coin is the clubs of policemen and the rifles of militia, and we meant to use them—to expropriate the expropriators, as we said. Now suddenly we have become tender-hearted; we only hate munition makers, and we would not take a human life for anything. We are revolutionary, of course—more so than ever; so determined to get the whole loaf of bread that we will make no move to protect the half-loaf we already have. We do not value that—possibly because our forefathers who got it for us at Bannockburn and Valley Forge and Gettysburg used the evil method of militarism!

FOOTPATH OBSTRUCTION.

An Interesting Police Court Case.

The question of obstructing the footpaths in Hongkong has been raised in many various cases of late, and this morning, at the Magistracy, it was raised again, when the Manager of the Exile Garage, Mr. F. Ellis, was summoned for causing an obstruction by allowing his motor car drivers to sit on the footpath in chairs and on stools, whilst awaiting fares.

Mr. J. H. Gardiner appeared to represent the defence. Sergeant Kirby stated that there were several men sitting outside the premises, causing an obstruction to foot passengers.

Mr. Gardiner said that the forms and stools were placed immediately against the wall of the building. There was no passage-way in which the men could sit, and the garage was full up with cars. The men had nothing to do and were waiting for a fare, so they sat outside. So far as the manager was concerned, if the Police had intimated that the matter was thought to be an obstruction he would have taken steps to get it altered. He thought that his client should have had some warning. It was certainly a trivial matter.

His Worship said that from the traffic point of view it was not a trivial matter.

Mr. Gardiner stated that the practice had been going on for six years, and they had never been told before that it was an obstruction.

Further argument took place, and it was stated by Mr. Gardiner that his client would give an undertaking to remove the cause of complaint. In fact he wanted to see the Captain Superintendent of Police on the matter to see if some arrangement could not be come to.

His Worship thought the case was on all fours with the cases where people were charged with carrying on their business in the street, because there was no room inside the premises for the drivers to wait. He did not propose to inflict a penalty, if an undertaking would be given.

Mr. Gardiner gave the undertaking asked for.

I have many German friends. They all have my sympathy in this crisis, but those who have my wishes for success are those who are in prison in Germany, not those who are preaching pacifism in the American Socialist party.

It is an obvious fact that British sea power has been the basis on which democracy has been built. Understand that I do not mean the sea power of Kipling and the admirals as it was in itself; I mean the sea power controlled; as it has been, by the conscience of Burke and Fox, of Gladstone and Campbell-Bannerman. "We had to lick them in the revolutionary war," you will say. To be sure, but we could only lick them because their heart was not really in the fight, because their better element held them back.

What about Ireland you will ask. I do not mean to raise the religious issue especially, but it is an obvious fact that it is hard to give democracy to men who believe in a religion which denounces it and is organized all over the world to fight it. To state such a fact will displease many of our wider Radicals, but it is a fact, nevertheless. It is a fact which makes Home Rule a problem at this hour.

Take South Africa. England conquered South Africa, which we may agree was a crime; but then the conscience of England asserted itself and she faced about and gave self-government forthwith to that conquered people. As a result of that, South African armies are to-day fighting for England against the Kaiser, who sent telegrams of sympathy to the Boers. It was one of the greatest acts of statesmanship in human history, and I give it as my illustration of what I mean when I favour British sea power as against Prussian militarism. Let my pro-German friend get busy and search the history of Prussia from the earliest days and find a similar action, a single case of any sort of magnanimity exhibited by a conquered people.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE ANGLI-FRENCH OFFENSIVE.

Great Struggle Near Lens.

London, Aug. 22.

Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters writing this afternoon says: There was a ferocious battle during the whole of yesterday around Lens. The latest news is that the Canadians are holding their gains on the western fringe of the city, but north of the railway the situation is not clear owing to the sway of the great fight. It is increasingly clear that the enemy had yesterday organised a big attack possibly with the idea of retaking Hill 70. Its synchronisation with the renewed Canadian offensive upset his whole plan but the enemy is putting up a formidable fight with fresh troops and the heaviest artillery fire yet experienced at Lens. The 1st Prussian Guards reserve division is the latest to be thrown in to retrieve the situation. Between 2 and 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon the battle was simply boiling. The Germans launched two counter-attacks north of the railway. Streams of men emerged from the cellars and the heart of the ruined mounds where houses once stood. When the last of these had been fought to a finish the Canadians at one place counted over a hundred Prussian corpses on a hundred yards front. It is mainly a soldier's battle, methods of frightfulness being impossible owing to endangering one's own people equally with the adversary. A few prisoners were taken last evening. It appears that the Boche barrage started five minutes before our yesterday morning but luckily our infantry had been formed for the attack while the German trenches were packed, our artillery inflicting heavy slaughter. It looks as if the Huns realise that they must attack Hill 70 or quit Lens. What further price they are prepared to pay in this effort remains to be seen.

The hottest of the fighting was in the vicinity of Inverness Copse which is the most strongly fortified spot in the region. The Boches have run out a perfect new network of wire between the trees, have studded the place with machine guns, filled it with concrete pill-box block-houses and burrowed it into a labyrinth of dugouts and short trenches. The battle is being fought by English and Scottish troops who are finely maintaining the fame of the old British line.

Fine French Feat at Verdun.

London, August 22.

Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters, filing in particulars of the offensive at Verdun, says that the enemy had fresh reserve divisions and over 2,000 guns. He poured out poison gas for days before the attack. Our troops were gas masks the whole time. The captures at Talou Hill and Hill 344 were respectively 1,050 and 1,300. The feat was the outcome of a splendid two miles' charge made by gas masked infantry from the northern slope of Pepper Hill. The bombardment had driven the enemy from the defences on the crest line. They filled the valley between with gas, but ineffectually.

More French Captures.

London, August 22.

A French communiqué states: The enemy at night time violently bombarded different points of our first line on the Aisne. The Germans made several strong attacks in the region of Mennejean Farm, east of Bray, south of Le Boveille, between Ailles and the Hartebise Monument and on the California Plateau. We uniformly maintained our positions everywhere and took prisoners. We repulsed a violent counter-attack yesterday evening between Hill 304 and Mort Homme. A brilliant counter offensive drove out the enemy who gained a footing in our new front line. We made prisoners of 50. Our reconnoitering parties rushed on as far as the edge of the village of Forges. The enemy made several attempts to drive us back from the positions we won on the right bank of the Meuse, notably north of Morant Farm and Hill 94. Our fire broke up with great losses the attacking waves, which nowhere reached our lines. Attacks with liquid fire north of Cauberg Wood merely increased the enemy losses. Since Aug. 20 we have taken 6,116 unwounded prisoners including 354 officers and not including the prisoners taken in the dugouts yesterday, and also 600 wounded prisoners. We took important booty especially in the three tunnels at Mort Homme where dressing stations with electrical apparatus were found intact. We prisoners here a whole regiment Staff Corps and the Commanding Officer of Engineers.

French Gains Admitted.

London, August 22.

A German communiqué states: The artillery fire from the coast and Bixchoote to Warneton is again intense. Fresh fighting is developing at Lens. The French gained ground at Avocourt Wood and Samogneux.

Successful British Operations.

London, August 22.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: We carried out successful operations this morning eastward, and north-eastward of Ypres for the capture of a series of strong points and fortified farms astride the Ypres-Menin Road, between Ypres-Roulers railway and Langemark. There was bitter fighting at all points, the enemy repeatedly counter-attacking. Our artillery and machine gun fire inflicted heavy losses. The struggle was the fiercest on the high ground in the neighbourhood of the Ypres-Menin Road where we advanced to a depth of 500 yards on a front of a mile. We captured an important observation position and also the western portion of Inverness Copse. Our line further north was advanced to a maximum depth of over half a mile on a front of two and a half miles. The enemy resisted most stubbornly. We made prisoners of 250 but owing to the obstinate nature of the fighting these are an unusually small proportion of the enemy's total losses. We took 194 prisoners yesterday at Lens making 1,278 since Aug. 15, in addition to 34 machine guns and 21 trench mortars. In fierce air fighting we brought down twelve and drove down five enemy aeroplanes, while twelve of ours are missing.

No Enemy Attack at Verdun.

London, Aug. 23.

A French communiqué states: The artillery duel was somewhat violent in the region of Bray and Cerny. Our batteries in Champagne carried out an effective fire which destroyed more enemy gas reservoirs. On the Verdun front the enemy reacted during the course of the day with artillery especially on the left of the Meuse, but did not attempt to attack our new positions. Six enemy aeroplanes were destroyed in air fights and five others fell damaged.

A wireless German official message states: A British attack eastward of Ypres on a fifteen kilometre front failed with heavy losses.

RUSSIAN MILITARY APPOINTMENT.

Petrograd, Aug. 23.

General Letchitsky who until recently was commanding the Russian western front has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the northern front.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE ITALIAN OFFENSIVE.

New Successes on the Whole Line.

London, Aug. 22.

An Italian official message states: The battle is raging on the whole front. We are overcoming the resistance northward of Gorizia and are gaining new successes on the whole line of battle. The prisoners have reached a total of 13,311 and we captured 30 guns and great booty. Our aeroplanes have the mastery of the air and bombarded troops and caused conflagrations on the communications. We everywhere repulsed attacks at Trentino and Carnia. The enemy's bigger attack in Ledro Valley failed after a lively struggle.

Austrians Retiring.

London, Aug. 23.

An Austrian official message states: Eastward of Canale we abandoned the village of Vrh. Enemy attacks southward of Descla and eastward of Gorizia and Bigla failed. After a most severe struggle at Carso we undertook minor defensive retirements. The Italians re-attacked this morning.

Huge Austrian Attacks Fail.

London, Aug. 22.

Correspondents state that the Austrian counter-attack at Carso with 120 battalions was repulsed in disorder. The enemy centre at Carso has been broken, thus menacing the whole left flank. A deserter revealed the whereabouts of a cavern holding a detachment which was wiped out. Numerous machine guns were captured. Several caverns on Monte Santo and San Marco fell in, wiping out whole battalions. It is stated that a million Austrians are operating against the Italians.

GENERAL NEWS.

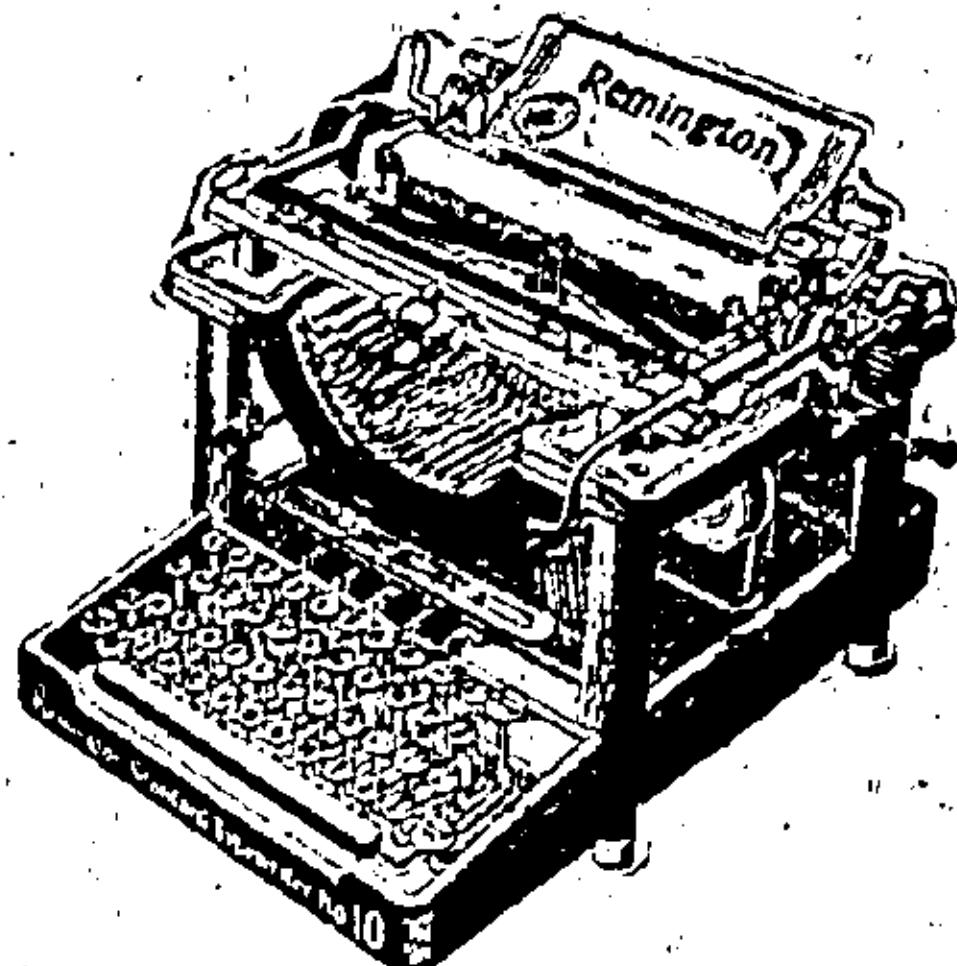
Osaka Castle.

A rumour is current that the Osaka Division now quartered in Osaka Castle may be removed to some other place near the city, so that the Castle may be converted into a detached palace. Viscount Hadano, Minister of the Household, and other important officials of the Household Department, deny the rumour absolutely. One important official states that it is more important to establish a detached palace in Obasen, and that even this question is still pending. At present there are detached palaces in Kioto, Nagoya and Sama (Mako), and plans for the construction of a palace at Nara were drawn up and approved by the Household Department some time ago, though the work has not been started. The site was selected long ago.

"A Life for a Life."

At a meeting held by the British Empire Union on Tower Hill, Captain Tupper addressed a public audience for the first time in London since the Sailors' and Firemen's Union prevented Messrs. Ramsey MacDonald and Jowett from leaving this country for Russia. On the platform with the speakers were some of the women and children wounded in last Wednesday's air raid. Captain Tupper said that the seamen refused to sail with Mr. Ramsey MacDonald because they were Britishers first and Trade Unionists afterwards. He had been credited with stopping the peace-mongers, but that credit had to be extended to the Seamen's Union, who were Britishers through and through. Referring to air raids, Captain Tupper said he could never be in favour of killing women and children, but to the Germans we had now to say, "If you kill our women and children then we have now got to kill yours. It is now eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth, and a life for a life." We must call on the Government to send an ultimatum to Germany warning them that if they raid or then we shall raid every town we possibly can in Germany.

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SEE HOW WELL BUILT IT IS;
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B.—BUYERS; N.—NOMINAL.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

H. K. & S. Banks s. \$600
MARINE INSURANCES.
Cantons b. \$320
North Chinas n. t. 140
Unions s. \$800
Yangtzes n. ex 75 \$3.1

FIRE INSURANCES.
China Fires n. \$133
H. K. Fires n. \$300

SHIPPING.
Douglases n. \$85
Steamboats n. \$18
Indos (Del.) s. \$1011
Indos (Prel.) s. \$35
Shells b. 108/6
Ferries n. \$29

REFINERIES.
Sugars n. \$96
Malabons b. \$29

MINING.
Kailans b. 39/-
Langkats b. t. 14
Raubs s. \$2.50
Tronchs n. 25/6
Urals n. 32/-
Oriental Cons. b. 28/-

DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, & C.
H. K. Wharves b. \$73
Kowloon Docks b. \$113
Shai Docks n. t. 78

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.
Centrals s. \$921
H. K. Hotels n. \$107
Land Invest. b. \$85
H'phreys Est. n. \$6.25
K'loon Lands n. \$33
Shai Lands b. t. 76
West Points b. \$70
Reclamations n. \$115

COTTON MILLS.
Ewos s. t. 160
Kung Yiks n. t. 15
Shai Cottons n. t. 132
Yangtzepeeps n. t. 5.75
Orientals n. t. 42

MISCELLANEOUS.
Borneos n. \$7
China Light & P. n. \$4.50
Providents n. \$7.90
Dairy Farms n. \$7
Green Islands b. \$4814
H. K. Electrics n. \$143
H. K. Ice Co., n. \$143
Ropes n. x d. \$261
Steel Foundries b. x d. \$10
Trams, Low Level n. \$6.20
Trams, Peak, old s. \$9
Trams, Peak, new n. cts. 90
Laundries b. \$3.40
U. Waterboats n. \$13
Watsons n. \$6
Wm. Powells s. \$6.50
Morning Posts n. \$29

CORRECTED TO MONDAY

AUGUST 24, 1917.

BENJAMIN & POTTS,
Share and General Brokers,
Princes Building.
Tel. address: Broker.

EXCHANGE.

SELLING.
T/T Demand 2/11 1/2
30 d/s 2/11 1/2
60 d/s 2/11 1/2
4 m/s 3/-
T/T Shanghai Nom.
T/T Singapore 126
T/T Japan 137 1/2
T/T India Nom.
Demand, India Nom.
T/T San Francisco 70 1/2
co & New York
T/T Java 168 1/2
T/T Marks Nom.
T/T France 409 1/2
Demand, Paris 410

BUYING.
4 m/s. L/C 3/- 1/4
4 m/s. D/P 3/- 3/4
6 m/s. L/C 3/- 3/4
30 d/s. Sydney & Melbourne 3/- 3/4
30 d/s. San Francisco & New York 71 1/2
4 m/s. Marks Nom.
4 m/s. France 423 1/2
6 m/s. France 427 1/2
Demand, Germany
Demand, New York 70 1/2
T/T Bombay Nom.
Demand, Bombay Nom.
T/T Calcutta
Demand, Calcutta Nom.
Demand, Manila 141
Demand, Singapore 126
On Haiphong 5 1/4 prem.
On Saigon 5 1/2 prem.
On Bangkok 5/-
Sovereign 6.70 Nom.
Gold Leaf, per oz. \$9.0
Bar Silver, per oz. 44 1/2

SUBSIDIARY COINS.
DISCOUNT PER \$100:
Chinese 20 cts. pieces 1 1/2 ds.
Chinese 10 " 1 1/2 ds.
Hongkong 20 cts. pieces par.
Hongkong 10 " "

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HEAD OFFICE, HONGKONG

FOREIGN EXCHANGE and
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INTEREST ON FIXED DEPOSITS:

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BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE.

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Capital (44 Paid up) France 45,000,000

(1/3 of the Capital subscribed by the Government of the Chinese Republic.)

Chairman of the Board of Directors Andre Berthelot.

General Manager A. J. Pernette.

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BANKERS.

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In NEW YORK: Redmond & Co.

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Interest allowed on Current Accounts and Fixed Deposits. Terms on application.

Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

M. ROUET DE JOURNEL, Manager.

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Queen's Building, Tel. No. 2352

5, Chater Road.

Hongkong, 20th August, 1917.

NOTICES.

NOTICE.

PEAK TRAMWAY CO. LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

12.00 A.M. to 2.00 A.M. Every 15 Min.

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